

"Bill" Senn, one of Baton Rouge's most-respected businessmen and community leaders, on the occasion of his retirement after 38 years of service with Exxon Chemical Americas.

Bill received bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees in chemistry from Louisiana State University and served in the U.S. Air Force. His Exxon career began in 1957 as a chemist in the Exxon Research Laboratories in Baton Rouge. He served in various supervisory assignments including department and division head posts until 1976.

Dr. Senn served as manager of the company's engineering department for 2 years and then was named manager of Exxon's Baytown, TX chemical plant. In August 1981, he returned home to Baton Rouge as manager of the Baton Rouge Chemical Plant which he has headed since.

Mr. Speaker, I've known Bill Senn since 1986 and have always sought and valued his counsel. Whenever I return home and whatever I do, Bill is always there supporting local communities with his time and talents.

Since he and his wife, the former Patricia Harrison of Baton Rouge, will continue to make their home in Baton Rouge, I expect Bill will be just as active in the community after retirement as he is now.

Highlights of his involvement in industry, governmental affairs, and community organizations include serving in the past as chairman of the board of directors of the Louisiana Chemical Association [LCA], chairman of the board of directors of the Louisiana Public Affairs Research Council, and chairman of the Baton Rouge United Way general campaign. He has been chairman of the board of directors of the Louisiana Chemical Industry Alliance since its inception and also currently serves on the LCA board.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Bill Senn has served his company and community with distinction and integrity. I value the counsel he has shared with me over the years and wish him the best as he moves on to new challenges and opportunities.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably delayed from voting on two bills under suspension on Tuesday, April 23, since the Pennsylvania primary election required my voting in the 21st district of Pennsylvania that same morning. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on H.R. 2024, and "yes" on H.R. 1965.

THE DRIVE AWAY FROM ETHANOL WELFARE ACT OF 1996

HON. RANDY TATE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. TATE. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to eliminate the ethanol tax subsidy.

In the November 1994 elections, the American people voted for a Congress that would balance the budget, scrutinize every cent that Federal Government spends and examine every Federal program, including corporate welfare. For far too long American taxpayers have subsidized one of the most egregious examples of corporate welfare—the ethanol industry.

Some people have asked me why should I care about the ethanol tax subsidy. Let me tell you why.

In November 1995, Congressman BILL ARCHER of Texas, chairman of the House Ways and Means Committee, moved the Balanced Budget Act, through his committee. That bill included a provision to eliminate the ethanol tax subsidy. However, before the full House could even consider that historic legislation that provision was stripped out. A vote was not even allowed.

My constituents were outraged. My congressional offices were besieged by upset phone callers. At first, I wasn't exactly sure why they felt so betrayed. Frankly, I didn't know much about the ethanol industry.

I discovered that between the years of 1983 and 1994, the State of Washington lost \$164 million in Federal highway money which means that Washington State motorists spent an additional \$97.71 per driver on car maintenance and repairs in 1993.

In my State, the Puget Sound Air Pollution Control Agency recently called for the lifting of the winter-time oxygenated fuel program. Their reasoning was that Puget Sound drivers were paying as much as \$25 million a year in reduced gas mileage, clogged fuel filters and fuel injection systems and slightly higher increases at the pump. The Air Control Agency went on to find that the exhaust from cars is much cleaner and any environmental benefit from ethanol is negligible.

While working people and their families in my State paid Federal gas taxes, the safety of their everyday driving was being compromised because there was not enough money to repair roads and bridges. And, Federal highway money was being used to subsidize ethanol production which, in turn, was artificially inflating the price of beef, milk, and pop that families were paying at the corner store in my State.

What I learned was that Americans are paying Federal gas taxes designated for highway construction and bridge repair and those same hard-earned dollars are paving the ethanol industry's road to the bank with gold.

Today, I am introducing the Drive Away From Ethanol Welfare Act of 1996. It has 53 original cosponsors and enjoys the support of Chairman BUD SHUSTER, Chairman BOB LIVINGSTON, and Chairman BILL CLINGER. It is a very bipartisan bill because the ranking member of the House Ways and Means Committee, SAM GIBBONS, was my first original cosponsor.

The Drive Away From Ethanol Welfare Act ensures the elimination of this ridiculous tax break in the year 2000. It reduces the tax subsidy immediately by 3 cents. In the interim, no ethanol producer will have an investment stranded.

The Drive Away From Ethanol Welfare Act eliminates the cashflow provision that has made the industry profitable for two decades. Ether will no longer be eligible, immediately.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and to take a stand against an egregious case of corporate welfare.

CONGRATULATING THE SIOUX FALLS SKYFORCE FOR WINNING THE 1996 CBA CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. TIM JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Sioux Falls Skyforce for winning the Continental Basketball Association championship. By defeating the Fort Wayne Fury 4 games to 1, the victorious Skyforce returned home to Sioux Falls with the franchise's first championship in its 7 year history. Led by most valuable player Henry James, the Skyforce battled their way through the playoffs, gathering momentum with each closely contested game, and capping their season of a lifetime with Devin Gray's buzzer beater to give the Skyforce their cherished championship.

I would like to congratulate coach Mo McHone, the Skyforce organization, and the players for their commitment to excellence during this championship season. I would also like to thank the people of Sioux Falls and the surrounding communities for their loyalty and support for the Sioux Falls Skyforce throughout the existence of the franchise. Skyforce players could always count on the fans to fill the arena, cheering them on through the last-second victories and the heartbreaking losses.

On behalf of all South Dakotans, I extend to the Sioux Falls Skyforce my congratulations on winning the 1996 Continental Basketball Association Championship.

HONORING THE WOODBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 25, 1996

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I am taking this opportunity to applaud the invaluable services provided by the Woodbury Volunteer Fire Department. These brave, civic minded people give freely of their time so that we may all feel safer at night.

Few realize the depth of training and hard work that goes into being a volunteer firefighter. To quote one of my local volunteers, "These fireman must have an overwhelming desire to do for others while expecting nothing in return."

Preparation includes twice-monthly training programs in which they have live drills, study the latest videos featuring the latest in firefighting tactics, as well as attend seminars where they can obtain the knowledge they need to save lives. Within a year of becoming a volunteer firefighter, most attend the Tennessee Fire Training School in Murfreesboro where they undergo further, intensified training.

When the residents of my district go to bed at night, they know that should disaster strike and their home catch fire, well-trained and qualified volunteer fire departments are ready and willing to give so graciously and generously of themselves. This peace of mind should not be taken for granted.

By selflessly giving of themselves, they ensure a safer future for us all. We owe these